

## **What is claimed is:**

1. A computer implemented method of configuring a computer system executing a handheld platform operating software comprising the steps of:

reading generic configuration settings from a storage device;  
storing generic configuration settings in a memory;  
determining if first computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a storage device;  
if said first computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on said storage device, copying said first computer system-specific configuration settings to said memory;  
determining if second computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a network;  
if said second computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a network, copying said second computer system-specific configuration settings to said memory;  
setting a boot status setting; and  
rebooting said computer system.

2. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the configuration settings include at least one of brightness, volume, energy saving, color depth, peripheral device, delay period, communication port, and baud rate settings.

3. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the configuration settings identify configuration settings to be stored.

4. A computer implemented method of configuring a computer system executing a handheld platform operating software comprising the steps of:

reading generic configuration settings from a storage device;  
storing generic configuration settings in a memory;

determining if first computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a storage device;  
if said first computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on said storage device, copying said first computer system-specific configuration settings to said memory;  
setting a boot status setting; and  
rebooting said computer system.

5. A computer implemented method of configuring a computer system executing a handheld platform operating software comprising the steps of:

reading generic configuration settings from a storage device;  
storing generic configuration settings in a memory;  
determining if second computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a network;  
if said second computer system-specific configuration settings are stored on a network, copying said second computer system-specific configuration settings to said memory;  
setting a boot status setting; and  
rebooting said computer system.

6. A computer implemented method of configuring a computer system comprising the steps of:

loading generic configuration settings;  
loading computer system-specific configuration settings; and  
rebooting the computer system.

7. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the computer system-specific configuration settings are read from a storage device or a network.

8. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 6 wherein computer system-specific configuration settings are read from a storage device and comprising the further step of:

loading computer system-specific configuration settings from a network.

9. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 8 comprising the further step of:

using computer system-specific configuration settings from the network.

10. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the configuration settings include at least one of brightness, volume, energy saving, color depth, peripheral device, delay period, communication port, and baud rate settings.

11. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the configuration settings identify configuration settings to be stored.

12. A system for configuring a computer system comprising:

a processor for receiving and transmitting data; and

a memory coupled to the processor, said memory having stored therein sequences of instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to load generic configuration settings, load computer system-specific configuration settings, and reboot the computer system.

13. The system as claimed in claim 12 further comprising:

a storage device coupled to said processor, said storage device having stored therein computer system-specific configuration settings; and

wherein said memory further includes sequences of instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to read computer system-specific configuration settings from said storage device.

14. The system as claimed in claim 12 further comprising:

a communication interface coupled to said processor, said communication interface coupled to another computer system having stored therein computer system-specific configuration settings; and  
wherein said memory further includes sequences of instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to read computer system-specific configuration settings from said computer system via said communication interface.

15. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the configuration settings include at least one of brightness, volume, energy saving, color depth, peripheral device, delay period, communication port, and baud rate settings.

16. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the configuration settings identify configuration settings to be stored.

17. A computer-implemented method of storing configuration settings of a computer system executing a handheld platform operating software comprising the steps of:

determining if a storage device is connected to the computer system;  
if the storage device is connected to the computer system, storing computer system-specific configuration settings to the storage device;  
determining if the computer system is connected to a network connection having a second computer system; and  
if the network connection having a second computer system is connected to the computer system, storing computer system-specific configuration settings to the second computer system.

18. A computer implemented method of storing configuration settings of a computer system comprising the steps of:

receiving a specified event at the computer system;  
determining if a storage device is connect to the computer system; and

if the storage device is connected to the computer system, storing computer system-specific configuration settings to the storage device.

19. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 18 wherein the specified event includes at least one of expiration of a delay period and computer system shutdown.

20. A computer implemented method of storing configuration settings of a computer system comprising the steps of:

receiving a specified event at the computer system;  
determining if the computer system is connected to a network connection having a second computer system; and  
if the computer system is connected to the network connection having a second computer system, storing computer system-specific configuration settings to the second computer system.

21. The computer implemented method as claimed in claim 20 wherein the specified event includes at least one of expiration of a delay period and computer system shutdown.

22. A system for storing configuration settings of a computer system comprising:

a processor for receiving and transmitting data; and  
a memory coupled to the processor, said memory having stored therein computer system-specific configuration settings and sequences of instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to receive a specified event, determine if the computer system is connected to a storage device, and if the computer system is connected to a storage device, store the computer system-specific configuration settings to the storage device.

23. The system as claimed in claim 22 wherein said memory further comprises sequences of instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said

processor to determine if the computer system is connected to a network connection having a second computer system and if the computer system is connected to the network connection having a second computer system, store the computer system-specific configuration settings to the second computer system.

